

mander of the war ship Reson, stated the blockade of Hayti was effective.

**LONDON, Dec. 21.**—United States Minister and Mrs. Phelps attended the exercises of the United Westminster schools to-day. Mrs. Phelps distributed prizes. The choir sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

**BERLIN, Dec. 21.**—The report that Mr. Blaine will succeed Mr. Pendleton as United States minister to Germany has caused great satisfaction among American residents here.

**BRUSSELS, Dec. 21.**—The Independent League announces that the president and Mrs. Cleveland will visit Europe soon after the expiration of Mr. Cleveland's term of office and that they will remain for some time in this city.

**PARIS, Dec. 21.**—A chemist's assistant named Paste Beausier was arrested here to-day charged with poisoning sixteen persons at Havre. It is supposed that Beausier's motive for the crime was a desire to ruin his employer and obtain the business for himself.

**LONDON, Dec. 21.**—Bands of brigands are scouring Ephesus in Turkey. Several villages have been raided and Christian inhabitants massacred. Turkish officers are helpless.

#### Tipoo Tib's Messenger.

**LONDON, Dec. 21.**—A dispatch to the Times from Zanzibar says: Tipoo Tib's messenger came by the way of Ujiji and Union Yombu, with news from Stanley dated August 25. They confirm other accounts that Stanley left Emin with Casati, that both were perfectly well. The messenger will return direct to Tipoo Tib.

#### THE PHILADELPHIA BRIBERY.

What the President of the Road Said to the Councilman.

**PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 21.**—Mr. Dell Noblitt, whom Councilman Graham charged with having offered him 1000 shares of elevated railroad stock for his vote and influence in favor of an elevated road franchise, was examined to-day and testified that in 1884, while he was president of the Commercial Exchange National Bank, in a conversation he had with Mr. Robert B. Esler, father of the vice-president of the Elevated Railroad Company, in which Mr. Esler said that he held 1000 shares of stock at the disposal of Mr. Graham, and that the company wanted Mr. Graham's influence. He had merely repeated what Mr. Esler had said. Mr. Graham did not take the stock, and he had never spoken to him about it afterwards. Frederick B. Esler, vice president of the company, and his father, Robert B. Esler, also appeared before the committee in response to the subpoenas and declared positively that no stock, money or other consideration had ever been offered for a vote in favor of the bill.

#### Held for Robbery.

**HOUSTON, TEX., Dec. 21.**—To-night James Cavalry was arrested by the police and lodged in the lock-up on a charge of robbing a young man named W. E. Jones. He was indicted into a den and received of more than \$100 cash and a gold watch. The parties were arrested and \$200 in cash was recovered and four watches, two of them gold. Jones recently came from New Orleans, but had letters from Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis and Muscatine, Iowa. Jones is held to testify in the case to-morrow.

**Packet pin cushions at W. C. Pfeiffer's, 605 Main street.**

#### Oliver Ditson Is Dead.

**BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 21.**—Mr. Oliver Ditson, whose name is a household word in this country where music is sung or taught, died this afternoon at his home on East Brooklyn street, this city, aged seventy-seven years. His death was not entirely unexpected, as he had been ill since fifteen months ago, when symptoms of disease of the brain were noticed.

#### An Ex-Congressman Dead.

**MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 21.**—Ex-Congressman George W. Marvin died in this city to-night from old age, seventy-nine years. He was in the Thirty-first and Thirty-third congresses. While a member of the latter body he made a speech in opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska bill which gave him a national reputation.

**Silver bon bon boxes and trays at Pfeiffer's, the jeweler, 605 Main street.**

#### Strike Averted.

**ST. PAUL, MINN., Dec. 20.**—A special to the Pioneer Press from Fort Dodge, Iowa, says the big strike threatened in the North Central coal mining districts has been averted by a satisfactory adjustment of the differences between the operators and miners. The settlements were made on both sides. The strikers returned to work to-day.

**Silver plated cups, \$1 to \$5. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

#### Ohio Tally Sheet Case.

**COLUMBUS, OHIO, Dec. 20.**—Evidence in the Allen O. Meyer tally sheet case was concluded to-day and the argument begun. Seven hours have been allowed for speeches on either side. Judge Nash completed his argument for the state this evening. A decision is expected Saturday.

**Silver match boxes and fruit knives. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

#### Assignment at San Antonio.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**SAN ANTONIO, TEX., Dec. 21.**—L. D. Cardwell & Co., doing a general goods' furnishing business at 243 Commerce street, made an assignment to-day for the benefit of creditors. No schedule of liabilities and assets accompanied the articles of assignment. Dr. G. G. Chittenden is named as assignee.

**Gold-headed canes, \$15 to \$20. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

**American Hog Products in Canada.**

**OTTAWA, ONT., Dec. 20.**—A representative of the Chicago pork packers waited on the minister of customs and submitted a statement to show the ill effects that would result from the exclusion of American hog products by an increase of duty.

**Tilting for money, \$15 to \$20. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

**The finest and largest stock of sterling silver and plated ware in Fort Worth at Pfeiffer's, the jeweler, 605 Main street.**

## THE NEXT HOUSE.

The Speakership Contest—Who the Candidates Are—A Quadruple Fight.

What Will Be Done with Carlisle and Mills. Order Applying Civil Service to the Railway Mail Service.

#### Special to the Gazette.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.**—As it is now conceded the next house will be Republican gossip is thus early indulged in as to the speakership and the important committee chairmanships. The contest for speaker is a quadruple one, with Reed, McKinley, Cannon and Burrows in the field, and they are all more or less active, the silent worker, however, is McKinley. He is not a man of bluster, but for good, honest, plain work he is far ahead of his competitors. Then too he has the advantage of a prestige earned at Chicago, where he remained steadfast to Sherman, and refused to allow his own name to be used for the presidency when he had a good winning chance. Joe Cannon is aggressive and has the name of being the Republican watch-dog of the treasury. He has had many years experience on the appropriations committee, and is an able and ready debater, knows the rules of the house thoroughly, but is not so magnetic as McKinley. Burrows is somewhat of an orator and a little inclined to be autocratic like his namesake, Julius Caesar. He is a big burly man with a voice like a steam calliope, whose lower tones seem to come from the soles of his feet. His candidacy is, if anything, less formidable than any of the other competitors. Reed is the widest known candidate and has been in the chair frequently. He is a big boy, and reminds one of Lotta's plays, with pedagogical tendencies. Reed is the most sarcastic man in either house and things his rhetoric with scintillations of wit and withering irony as best suits the occasion. No one ever thinks of calling him Mr. Reed. He is simply "Tom," and will be always called so. He has always received the complimentary vote for the speakership from the Republicans since the Democrats captured the house, and it will be very hard on him if he does not receive the vote next session when it means something. Still you can get odds that he will not, if you choose to bet on him.

Next after the speakership comes the chairmanship of the ways and means committee, and gossips are already busy about that. Will Judge Kelly get it? The present indications are against him. He is a grand old man, has been in the house thirty consecutive years, and, at seventy-five years of age, is still able to make good speech and be heard all over the house. But he is still too old for a leader of the house and it is safe to say that the Republican speaker will appoint some bright, active, wide-awake Republican who is in accord with the present position of the party in the matter of tariff revision. Apropos of the ways and means committee, it is interesting to know what will be done with Mr. Carlisle. He will have to be provided for on the committee, and there will be some embarrassment in placing him. He would prefer to set at the head of the Democratic minority of the ways and means committee, but Mr. Mills will probably not be willing to add to the place which properly belongs to him. If they cannot get the position they desire on the committee which will frame the next tariff bill, they would prefer to go on some minor committees.

The order made by the president applying the civil service rules to the mail service brings between five and six thousand employees of the government under the protection of the civil service laws. There has been some comment upon this being made at this time, political opponents of the administration alleging that the president has done it to prevent the new administration from making a "clean sweep." As a matter of fact, this action has been in contemplation by the president for several months. The yearners for the flesh-pots denounce the extension of the civil service system to the railway postal service as a "household name." The president was only restrained from issuing the order in order to ascertain its probable effect upon that service. Whatever else he said against Cleveland, he cannot be fairly charged with established rules for the tenure of office in a partisan spirit. Mr. Harrison will find the civil service on a very different footing from that upon which it stood under Grant and Arthur, and it is believed by those who know him best that he will not be driven from his pledges to still further weaken the spirit and letter of the law.

**MUSICIANES.** From \$1 to \$200 at Hall & Pfeiffer's, 300 Houston street.

**Diamond rings at bottom prices, at W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

**Christmas Presents and Holiday Wares.**

Christmas presents of this kind never fail to please, and the China Co. have the finest and for the least money.

#### TERRELL.

Cases Continued in the District Court—Every One Read the Wellie-Harris Letters.

**TERRELL, TEX., Dec. 21.**—The Sham-barger case in the district court has been continued, also the Harris incendiary case and several others, but the court is making good headway.

It was not known that there were letters and telegrams on file touching the May Wellie-Harris affair until the whole matter was gathered up in print this morning. As a matter of course there was some little excitement and anxiety over the matter until all had acquainted themselves with the facts as far as ascertainable.

It is believed horse thieves are again in the land. Colonel Jim Harris has one of his span of gray horses this morning, and he has not yet been found.

**Children's gold and silver rings, \$1 to \$5. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

**The Ladies' Favorite Place.**

To select Christmas presents is at the famous Fort Worth China Co. where you can find all the things that you can see in a store or a month.

**MUSICIANES.** From \$1 to \$200 at Hall & Pfeiffer's, 300 Houston street.

**Concluded to Live Longer.**

**HOUSTON, TEX., Dec. 21.**—This morning Charles Stewart, a young mechanic employed in the Southern Pacific shops,

attempted to commit suicide by jumping from the International bridge into Buffalo bayou. The bridge is at least fifty feet above the water and the bayou is about fifteen feet deep at that point. The distance to the water from the bridge and the depth of the bayou proved conclusively that when Stewart made the leap his intention was self-destruction, but he changed his mind on the downward trip and when he came to the surface he struck a good healthy swimming hook and made for the shore. Some parties who witnessed the affair threw him a rope and he was landed in safety. He was satisfied to live longer. It is said that he has been on a protracted spree.

## SUPREME COURT.

The Celebrated Suit Brought by Attorney-General Hogg Against the Texas Traffic Association Affirmed.

#### Special to the Gazette.

**TEXAS, Dec. 21.**—The supreme court transacted the following business this morning: Affirmed—Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway, et al. vs. the State of Texas, from Travis; Dupree, et al. vs. Estelle, from McLennan; Robertson, guardian, vs. Garrett, et al., from Hunt.

Reversed and Remanded—Dixon, et al. vs. Sanderson, from Ellis.

Reversed and Remanded—Taylor vs. Robinson, from Dallas; Lazarus vs. Henrietta National Bank, from Clay.

Motion for Rehearing Refused—Kansas, Gulf and St. Louis Railway vs. Dorough, from Smith; Blum et al. vs. Adolph, from Caldwell; Sugg et al. vs. Tention, from Cooke.

The court also approved the following decisions of the commission of appeals: Reversed and remanded—Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway vs. Portor, from Bexar; Carpenter vs. Minter, from Wise.

The supreme court, as will be seen above, to-day affirmed the celebrated suit brought by Attorney-General Hogg against the Texas Traffic Association, the same being in favor of the state.

The court will adjourn for the term to-morrow.

**HONEY BY THE GALLON AT TURNER, McCURE & CO'S.**

#### AUSTIN.

Attorney-General Hogg Hands Down Two Opinions—No White Caps at Waco.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**AUSTIN, TEX., Dec. 21.**—Commissioner Foster's report will show that in 1877 the total births in Texas were 41,629, of which 10,677 were colored. There were 835 white pairs of twins, 130 colored pairs; also fifteen sets of white triplets and four colored sets.

Who says marriage is a failure in Texas? Attorney-General Hogg to-day rendered an opinion on the question of admitting to business in this state a New York Insurance Company carrying more than one kind of insurance on a single \$100,000 capital as prescribed by law. It is held that the company must have \$100,000 capital for each kind of insurance carried.

The attorney-general to-day addressed a letter to the secretary of the Farmers' Alliance who had written to inquire as to the power of a county to insure bonds to construct roads. The attorney-general unambiguously gave his opinion that there is no law authorizing counties to issue such bonds for the construction, repair or maintenance of roads, but counties are limited by article 8, section 9 of the constitution to the amount of taxes that may be levied and collected by a county for road and bridge purposes. The legislature would have the right to authorize counties to issue bonds for the construction of public roads.

Governor Ross to-day received a letter from J. W. Taylor, county attorney of McLennan county, whom the governor had instructed to prosecute the order of White Caps alleged to exist at Waco. Attorney Taylor, after investigation, denies the existence of such an order in Waco or McLennan county, and says the reporter on the Day who gave the report of it admitted he made it up himself. Attorney Taylor denies there was any body forged for beating his wife, or any other case.

**Ladies' gold and silver rings, \$1 to \$5. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

#### DECATUR.

The Public Schools Close A Successful Term With Appropriate Exercises.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**DECATUR, TEX., Dec. 21.**—The public schools of this place closed to-day until the 7th day of January. The attendance has been larger this year than ever before and the public generally seem to be greatly pleased with the present management. The entire morning was taken up with exercises in the chapel from the different grades, which were well executed and greatly appreciated by the visitors present.

Superintendent J. S. Tomlin left this evening and will spend the holidays at his old home in Alabama. Misses Pettie Hatch and Lizzie Crouch leave also. Miss Hatch goes to visit her parents at Basin Springs, Tex., and Miss Crouch to Arkadelphia, Ark. The other teachers will holiday here.

Hon. R. E. Carswell leaves to-day for Cartage, Tex., where he will reside with his family.

**Nickel albumen, \$1.50 to \$2.50, at W. C. Pfeiffer's, 605 Main street.**

#### Woman and Wine.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**ITASKA, TEX., Dec. 21.**—Frank Beckner and Jim Holland got into a difficulty with each other two miles from here last night and did some serious carving with knives. Holland was stabbed in the abdomen, penetrating to the cavity, which may prove fatal. Beckner was severely cut about the head and neck and in the arm, and was said to be bleeding freely this morning. It is another case of woman and wine.

**Famous rye, patent flour in stock at Turner, McCure & Co's.**

#### Holland.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**HOLLAND, TEX., Dec. 21.**—The farmers in this section will not get through gathering their corn and cotton this month. Corn is coming in lively and is selling at 25 to 30 cents.

Joe Elkin of this place has just been arrested for stealing \$25 from John Huddleston. Elkin's father is an honest, hard-working man.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

Denial of the Right of Voting Alleged From South Carolina.

Opponents of the Nicaragua Canal Bill Continue to Offer Amendments in the House. A Pension Increased.

#### Fiftieth Congress.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.**—Mr. Chandler presented three additional memorials, numerous signed, from three voting precincts in Orangeburg, S. C., alleging denial of the right of voting in the late election and praying for an investigation. Referred.

The senate at 1 o'clock took up the tariff bill, resuming its consideration at schedule 1, "cotton manufactures."

After an executive session the senate adjourned until January 2.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.**—After routine business the house went into committee of the whole on the Nicaragua canal bill. The opponents of the bill continued to offer amendments which were in most cases voted down.

Mr. Baker of Illinois offered an amendment providing that the government of the United States at any time at its own option shall have the right to purchase the entire property of the company for a sum equal to its actual cost, with interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

This was rejected, but it was agreed that it might be offered in the house and aye and no vote taken on it.

The committee then rose, and the previous question was ordered on the bill and amendments.

Mr. Adams introduced a bill authorizing the city of Lake View, Ill., to construct a crib in Lake Michigan for waterworks purposes. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Herbert of Alabama the senate bill was passed relating to the Pensacola and Memphis Railroad Company right of way through the naval and military reservation near Pensacola.

Mr. Gear of Iowa succeeded in getting through a bill increasing to \$50 a month the pension of Jack Rogers, a veteran of the war of 1812, and the house then adjourned until Wednesday, January 2.

The largest stock of ladies' boxes ever brought to Texas was seen at Hall & Pfeiffer's.

#### SAN ANGELO.

A Judge's Wife Burned to Death—A Woman Commits Suicide—Tom Green Cotton Sold.

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**SAN ANGELO, TEX., Dec. 21.**—Information by wire has just been received from Fredericksburg of the fatal burning day before yesterday of the wife of Judge A. W. Mourand, district judge of that district, who at the time was holding court at Llano. Mrs. Mourand was attending to her domestic duties, and her skirts caught from the fire place, and before it was possible for it to be extinguished she was burned beyond recovery.

A telegram was received here by J. N. Austin, a young blacksmith from San Saba, Tex., this evening stating that his mother had just shot herself and died in a few minutes. The cause of suicide is attributed to insanity, brought on through the murdering of one of her sons three years ago.

The first two bales of cotton ever raised in Tom Green county sold for 10c. A bonus of \$20 was contributed by the merchants to the raisers, John T. Hulse and J. H. Buzz. The cotton was raised on two acres, and the parties state this year was only an experiment, and they intend planting a large quantity next spring.

An old cotton grower with forty years of experience, from Grayson county, was heard to remark that this soil was especially adapted to cotton growing, and it would be only a matter of a few years before this will be the greatest cotton growing county in Texas.

**Plated cake baskets, \$1 to \$20. W. C. Pfeiffer, 605 Main street.**

**Indiana Elections Close.**

**INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 21.**—Forty witnesses from Wayne, Blackford, Wells and Greene counties are before the federal grand jury on the election cases to-day. The jury holds night sessions, passing only for a while at noon and at supper. Assistant District Attorney Claypool has not yet taken hold of the election cases. There seems to be some question in law as to whether he would be authorized to appear before the grand jury by special appointment. Time far Aving District Attorney Bailey has full charge of the election cases. The fees in these cases, especially the so-called Dudley case, are said to amount thus far to several thousand dollars.

**Silvering Lamps.**

Nothing nicer for Christmas presents for your wife and family. The nicest and cheapest at the Fort Worth China Co.

**Quiet at the Johnson Coal Mines.**

**GONNOR, Dec. 21.**—Everything is quiet at the Johnson coal mines. A great many of the miners who had built cottage houses on land belonging to the company are moving them away. Others are making no preparations to get away. The 25th, is the limit of the notice given to the company for all the miners to vacate the premises of the company.

**Gold pens, pencils and tooth picks, very cheap at W. C. Pfeiffer's.**

**A. and M. Cadets Out.**

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**BRYAN, TEX., Dec. 21.**—The cadets of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas were turned loose to-day at 12 o'clock, to enjoy Christmas with their parents and friends. Studies will be resumed January 3, 1889.

**Bird Cages, Bird Cages.**

Here's something for a Christmas present that you can give your lady friend that will be appreciated.

**FORT WORTH CHINA CO.**

**Texarkana.**

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**

**TEXARKANA, TEX., Dec. 21.**—The officers to-night are in pursuit of a notorious bad negro Sim Williams, who about 6 p. m. to-day committed a rape on Mary Howard, a colored girl of ten years while she was gathering evergreens for Christmas tree adorning. He made good his escape into Texas from the Arkansas side. Officers on both sides will track

the villain, and the colored people, who were much excited, propose to make quick work of justice when he is found.

**JOHN N. COOK** was married last night to Miss Virginia Carless. The groom is a leading lawyer and son of a prominent lawyer, Colonel John Cook. The bride is a charming belle of this city.

#### A Novel Marriage.

**LOUISVILLE, KY., Dec. 20.**—Samuel Miller aged ninety-eight, and Anna Hogan aged seventy-one, were married in Jeffersonville this afternoon. Miller has twelve children, but does not know where one of them is.

**Join the W. C. Pfeiffer club.**

#### DENVER STRIKE.

**Calum Pacific Switchmen Make Demands Upon the Company.**

**DENVER, COLO., Dec. 21.**—All switchmen in the Union Pacific yards, about seventy in number, are out on a strike. The men demand an increase of wages of 5 cents per hour; that they be given six additional men; and that Local Agent Smith, under whose direction they are now working, be removed, and that they be placed under yardmaster. The strikers are holding a conference with the officers of the road, and the probabilities are the trouble will be amicably settled in the next twenty-four hours.

**SOUTHERN PROSPERITY.**

The Remarkable Increase in Taxable Wealth in Eight Years.

**CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Dec. 21.**—The Trademark, in its January issue, will give a table showing the total assessment for 1888 of real estate, personal, railroads, etc., in the Southern states to be \$1,081,740,945. Following shows the increase of the taxable wealth in each of the Southern states between 1880 and 1888, together with the percentage of each during the same period.

Alabama—\$107,285,012, 69 per cent. increase in eight years.

Arkansas—\$74,808,905, 77 per cent.

Florida—\$17,910,961, 211 per cent.

Georgia—\$165,712,809, 42 per cent.

Kentucky—\$199,015,290, 50 per cent.

Louisiana—\$35,990,511, 20 per cent.

Mississippi—\$39,611,345, 26 per cent.

North Carolina—\$52,082,023, 30 per cent.

South Carolina—\$84,055,476, 26 per cent.

Tennessee—\$101,351,024, 46 per cent.

Virginia—\$49,351,374, 18 per cent.

Texas—\$411,629,294, 167 per cent.

Total, \$1,201,476,601.

The population of the states named has increased nearly 5,500,000 since the census of 1880.

#### DALLAS.

Marriages and Divorces—Writ of Attachment Issued Against E. W. Cole.

**DALLAS, TEX., Dec. 21.**—Charles A. Culbertson left to-day for Jefferson to spend the holidays.

Miss Bell James of Fort Worth is visiting Miss Onie Donohue on Seymour street.

Bessie Kincaid to-day filed her petition asking for a divorce from J. A. Kincaid. They were married in 1883. The plaintiff charges cruel and inhuman treatment and abandonment.

Writ of attachment was issued to-day in the suit of Dallas Ice Company vs. E. W. Cole, who recently absconded with the company's funds. Property of defendant valued at \$800 was seized under the writ.

Al Hoover, who was arrested on a charge of being implicated in the Benbow robbery, is held in default of \$5000 bail.

Marriage license was issued to-day to David Landry and Helen Strickland and C. W. Huffman and Mattie Jasper.